

**Indiana Disproportionality Committee
Large Committee Meeting
February 13, 2008**

Minutes

The committee meeting was held at Indiana University School of Social Work.

Present: Gabrielle Campo, Daniel Abbott, NaKaisha Tolbert-Banks, Norma Stewart, Mark Bryson, Robert Ross, Chris Morrison, Calvin Roberson, Kristin Clements-Effner, Katie Schlafer, Michael Patchner, Lisa E. McGuire, Brant Ping & Delores Kennedy-Williams (teleconference).

The meeting was convened by Clara Anderson at 1:10 p.m. All present were welcomed and introduced themselves.

Lisa McGuire, a faculty member at IUSSW, gave a brief overview of the IU School of Social Work and included how the work of IDC and the Commission fit the core values of the school which emphasizes social justice. She introduced Michael Patchner, Dean of the School of Social Work and the newly appointed chair of the Commission on Disproportionality in Youth Services.

Dean Patchner shared more thoughts about the school and its recent addition of taking on “labor studies program”. He spoke also about the Commission and the desire to be inclusive, open and transparent. He explained the connection to the 2004 Commission on abused and neglected children. The Dean invited all to participate by attending Commission meetings and working on sub-committees. All meetings are open and the public will have access and allowed time to speak. Questions from our group included: How he plans to include communication across the committee structures and how he will include real families? The cross communication between committees will be encouraged by sharing minutes and discussions at the full commission meetings. Real families will be included by open the mike at meetings and by holding public forums at various times throughout the state.

The December 12, 2007 Minutes were reviewed and there were no corrections.

Discussion and plans for 2007 Annual Report:

We have gotten quotes on the printing and McCoy has agreed to cover most of the cost of the printing of this year’s report. We will print enough to mail copies to legislators, city county councilors, Commission members, executive directors of partner agencies and we will get a copy. We will also provide a PDF file on our website.

We will use the same format as last years but update everything. We need reports on accomplishments from every committee. The Research committee is focusing attention on getting this finalized. Information needs to be turned in to Gabrielle by the end of February (2/29). Her email is gcampo@iui.org. Please be thoughtful and provide all of

the accomplishments during 2007. We would like to get everything to the printer in March.

Clara asked about mailing of the reports to the people named. Several people volunteered to mail some through their individual offices.

Sub-Committee Reports:

1. **Training Sub-committee:** Calvin Roberson shared the proposed Indiana Standards on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Training (CLAT). Calvin led us through the document line by line to insure that we realize what was being said. The committee was very impressed by the work that had been done gave feedback and minor suggestions to take back to the sub-committee. Most of the discussion was about whether “strategic plan” was the appropriate language to have in this document. The training committee will meet soon to try to finalize the document.

There was also discussion about a survey of agencies. The committee thought that the survey needs to be repeated. The idea of getting a baseline of what is currently being done seems like a good place to start and would be information important for the work of the commission.

2. **Research Sub-committee:** Nakaisha Banks & Gabrielle Campo indicated that the minutes were shared electronically. They emphasized the need for every Committee chair to get their info to Gabrielle for the 2007 Annual Report in a timely manner.

Gabrielle asked that everyone send their logo to her. That will make it easier than her trying to determine if the last logo is the correct one to use.

3. **Resource Development:** DaMica O’Bryant was not present and no report was submitted.
4. **Community Awareness:** Tawanna Clarke called to say that she was in strategic planning for her agency. They have been working on a newsletter that will highlight the Commission and its membership.
5. **Public Policy:** Mark Bryson reported that his group has been interested in the commission and how to support that work. They will focus on the impact of disproportionality on families and how some laws affect/contribute to disproportionality. For example, how do some felony laws affect kinship care? The committee will try to find model policies from other states to be useful with the commission’s work.

He appeals to everyone to contact him to help work on this committee and its efforts. He can be reached at mfbyson1@comcast.net .

Update on Commission on the Disproportionality in Youth Services

A summary of the first commission meeting was distributed as an attachment to the agenda. Dean Patchner gave an overview at the start of our meeting. It is now that the real work begins and we can have a positive influence through the various committees. That is where the work is really done and commissioners need the help of experts like us. Specific things that IDC members can do is to 1. Join a sub-committee and 2. Get lay people involved. Now is the time to act.

Other Business

IDC has been invited to participate in the Sixth Annual Indiana Juvenile Detention Association Summit in Lafayette on April 22-23. Calvin can do it on the 22nd. Lisa and Gabrielle can do it on the 23rd. Clara will contact them and ask that we get a time before lunch if possible. Robert is on that planning committee and will see if he can facilitate our getting a good spot on the schedule.

Adjourn at 3p.m.

Our Next Meeting will be April 9, 2008 in the Fifth Floor- Library, Indiana Youth Institute, 603 E Washington Street, 317.396.2717. We will provide call in info at a later date.

Other meetings in 2008:

- June 11, 2008**
- August 13, 2008**
- October 8, 2008**
- December 10, 2008**